

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 INRE-00 USIE-00 AID-05

CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 EA-10 FRB-01 INR-07

IO-10 NEA-09 NSAE-00 OPIC-06 SP-02 TRSE-00 CIEP-02

LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 INT-05 FEA-01 SS-15 NSC-05 L-02

H-02 PRS-01 PA-02 OES-05 OIC-02 DODE-00 STR-04 /123 W

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 685

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FOR EUR/CE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG OECD SZ

SUBJECT: SWISS PARTICIPATION IN IEA/OECD MINISTERIAL MEETINGS

REF: A) CASAGRANDE/SPILLANE TELCON MAY 14; B) BERN 1907

1. PARAS 3-5 REFTEL B REPRESENTED EFFORT SUMMARIZE BRIEFLY CURRENT GOS PUBLIC POSITION RE IEA AND OECD. GOS OFFICIALS DO NOT MAKE FREQUENT PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON EITHER ORGANIZATION. MOST AUTHORITATIVE OFFICIAL POSITION EXPRESSED IN SEMI-ANNUAL MESSAGES TO PARLIAMENT ON EXTERNAL ECONOMIC POLICY AND DURING PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE IN MARCH ON SWISS RATIFICATION OF IEA AGREEMENT (FULL OFFICIAL RECORD OF LATTER NOT YET PUBLISHED.)

2. GOVERNMENT SPOKESMAN (FEDERAL COUNCILOR BRUGGER) TOLD BOTH NATIONAL COUNCIL AND COUNCIL OF STATES IN MARCH (BERN 1143) THAT SWITZERLAND'S DEPENDENCE ON IMPORTED OIL FOR 80 PERCENT OF ITS ENERGY REQUIREMENTS
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MADE PARTICIPATION IN IEA PROGRAMS ESSENTIAL. HE

ALSO SAID GOS FAVORED DIALOGUE WITH PRODUCERS AND DID NOT LOOK ON MEMBERSHIP IN IEA AS STEP TOWARD CONFRONTATION WITH THEM. HE ALSO STRESSED THAT SWITZERLAND HAD MADE NEUTRALITY DECLARATION AT TIME IT SIGNED AGREEMENT IN NOVEMBER 1974. FOREGOING HAS CONTINUED TO REPRESENT ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF SWISS PUBLIC POSTURE TOWARD IEA.

3. SINCE NO RECENT PARLIAMENTARY ACTION REQUIRED, SWISS OFFICIALS HAVE HAD LESS TO SAY RE OECD. HOWEVER, AS NOTED REFTEL B PARA 5 RENEWAL OF TRADE PLEDGE HAS BEEN ENDORSED BY BRUGGER AND IS CONSIDERED OF GREAT IMPORTANCE BY SWISS OFFICIALS. IN MOST RECENT SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT TO PARLIAMENT ON FOREIGN ECONOMIC POLICY, FEDERAL COUNCIL PARTICULARLY STRESSED IMPORTANCE SWISS ATTACH TO WORK OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION (XCSS) CHAIRED BY AMBASSADOR JOLLES, DIRECTOR OF DIVISION OF COMMERCE. IN APRIL 14 AMERICAN CHAMBER SPEECH NOTED REFTEL B, FEDERAL COUNCILOR BRUGGER ALSO MENTIONED FAVORABLY OECD FINANCIAL SUPPORT FUND AND INDICATED THAT SWITZERLAND PREPARED, IN PRINCIPLE, MAKE CONTRIBUTION TO IMF OIL FACILITY AS WELL.
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